

Tickhill Town Council

Thursday 8th May 2025

Community Event

VE 80 DAY COMMEMORATION



THE PROCLAMATION

Tickhill was proud to come together in a spirit of remembrance and celebration for the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. The day began at 9:00am with a resounding proclamation by our very own Councillor Baz Cooper, stepping into the historic role of town crier. Our sincere thanks go to the family of the late Ted Corney, former town crier of Doncaster, for the kind loan of his ceremonial regalia — a fitting tribute to local heritage.

TICKHILL STEPS BACK IN TIME TO THE 1940'S

The town was transformed as 1940s re-enactors and enthusiasts brought history to life with jeeps, a vintage ambulance, and classic wartime vehicles lining the streets. Even Winston Churchill made an appearance, mingling with visitors, chatting with shoppers, and judging the best-dressed shop window competition.





VE 80 DAY COMMEMORATION

BUSINESSES GET INVOLVED

Local businesses and shops enthusiastically took part in the festivities, with staff dressing up and creating stunning window displays. The award for best dressed window, independently judged by Winston Churchill, went to Castlegate Cards for their nostalgic theme showcasing real events from the VE day celebrations. Davie Fine Art came a close second.

Local hospitality venues embraced the occasion too, with The Scarborough Arms and The Travellers Rest offering a complimentary first drink to anyone in uniform or 1940s dress. Cafés and restaurants around Tickhill served themed menus in honour of the day, even if prices weren't quite those of 1945!



THE FLAGS WERE FLYING

Thanks to Tickhill Together, Union Jack flags fluttered above the streets and Tickhill Poppies for their various displays all adding to the festive atmosphere. A delightful 1940's style afternoon tea was held at Parish Rooms in aid of the charity Hearts and Minds.





BEACON LIGHTING

As evening fell, the sound of church bells rang out across Tickhill at 7:00pm, signalling the start of an evening of reflection and community spirit. A beautiful concert was held in St Mary's Church, featuring performances by the Tickhill Community Choir and a poignant ukulele and pipe tribute.

The celebrations concluded with a moving beacon lighting ceremony at the Buttercross. Harworth Brass played a rousing medley of wartime tunes as the community gathered to sing "I Vow to Thee, My Country", the official VE 80 Day anthem. A reading was delivered by Councillors Johnson and Cooper, followed by the sounding of the Last Post. At 9:30pm, two veterans lit the beacon, representing the light of peace that emerged from the darkness of war followed by the observance of a minutes silence. To close the evening, The National Anthem echoed through the centre of Tickhill as everyone joined together in a moment of national pride.



WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO...

This was a truly memorable day, one that reflected the very best of Tickhill's community spirit. Thank you to all who contributed and participated. Your support and enthusiasm made VE 80 Day an unforgettable occasion.

- Tickhill Barn Dried Logs
- All the 1940s re-enactors and vehicle owners
- "Winston Churchill" for his superb character portrayal
- All Tickhill businesses and shops for decorating and participating
- UCL for the provision of safety barriers
- Harworth Brass Band
- Tickhill Community Choir
- Doncaster Council Neighbourhood Team
- Sally Jameson MP for Doncaster Central